(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (c) Based on a ruling of the U.S. Court of International Trade given on 29.12.95, Section 609 of the U.S. Public Law No. 101-162 shall be applicable to India alongwith various other nations, implying that India must comply with the requirements of Section 609 by 1st May, 1996 in order to export wild harvested shrimps to USA beyond this date. The shrimps sourced from aquaculture have been excluded from the above ruling. Government of India has authorised Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) to countersign a certificate (DSP-121 as prescribed by U.S. Government) authenticated by exporters concerned that a particular consignment of shrimps for exports to USA has been sourced from aquaculture.

The Government of India had the matter examined in a meeting of Committee of Secretaries (COS). Various options like taking the matter to the World Trade Organization (WTO), approaching U.S.Government with details on the regulatory programme which is in vogue in India and the possibility of notifying mandatory use of Turtle Excluder Devices by trawlers of an overall length of over 10 metre are under active consideration.

Export Oriented Units in M.P.

3582. SHRI VISVESHWAR BHAGAT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of export oriented units which have been set up in Madhya Pradesh with the details of their export commitment;

(b) the details of those units which have been able to meet their export commitment with their earning through export;

(c) the details of those units which have not been able to meet their export commitment with the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to see the performance of these export oriented units and meet their export commitment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) 23 Export Oriented Units were in production on 31st March, 1996 in the State of Madhya Pradesh with stipulated Value Addition ranging from 20% to 74.40%.

(b) and (c) Annual monitoring exercise of the export performance of those units which have completed one year or more as on 31.3.96 has been completed recently and provisional results are as follows :

(a) Units which have achieved stipulated Value Addition : 4

(b) Units with shortfall of more than 10% stipulated Value Addition but positive Net Foreign Exchange (FFE) : 8

(c) Units with negative Value Addition/Net Foreign Exchange : 5

(d) The performance of Export Oriented Units is reviewed by the Government annually on the basis of monitoring reports of Development Commissioners (DC's) of Export Processing Zones with reference to achievement of stipulated Value Addition. Whereas the units with some shortfall are kept under watch through the Development Commissioners, the cases of serious default are referred to Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) for penal action under Foreign Trade (Development and Control) Act, 1992. To facilitate the export production by EOUs a transparent and simplified framework of Policy & Procedures has been put in place by the Government. The external marketing efforts of EOUs are assisted by India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) and also the respective Commodity Boards & Councils.

Pricing of Coal

3583. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to spent a part of the additional amount earned due to deregulation of pricing of coking and non-coking coals for the welfare of the workers of those companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the factors leading to the deregulation of coking and non-coking coals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) to (c) All welfare activities for the workers are undertaken by the coal companies in consonance with industry practice and wage agreements. The deregulation of prices of coal was accepted by the Government as per recommendation of BICP to improve the financial viability of coal companies and to generate funds, among others, for investments in production of additional volumes of coal and other allied activities.

Pending Projects

3584. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have directed the Public Sector Companies to give up 55 projects on

which nearly Rs. 60,000/- crore have already been spent;

(b) if so, the names of these projects and the money spent on each of them so far;

(c) whether these projects are being discontinued due to paucity of funds;

(d) if so, whether any other resource mobilisation avenues are likely to be explored to complete these projects; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No, Sir. In February 1996 Government accepted, in principle, the suggestions of the Group of Ministers on specific measures to cut delays in implementation of projects. One of the suggestions relates to weeding out/transferring to joint/private sector of the projects which are making slow progress in view of the resource crunch. The criteria suggested by the Group of Ministers and accepted by the Government are that the projects where 60% of gestation period is over but expenditure incurred is 5% or less of the total cost should be considered for weeding out/transferring to joint/private sector keeping in view the resource crunch and other relevent factors such as the strategic importance, constraints in land acquisition, change in government policies/market conditions, backward and forward linkage, etc. The concerned administrative ministries would review the projects under their jurisdiction before the final decision is taken by the government. No project has been identified so far under the decision of February, 1996.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Income Tax Dues against Indian/Foreign Traders

3585. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of income-tax outstanding against Indian/Foreign businessmen and industrialists during the last two years, year-wise;

(b) the reasons for accumulation of the outstanding dues; and

(c) the steps being taken to make expeditious recovery of the same?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : a) Separate details of income-tax outstanding in the cases of Indian/foreign businessmen and industrialists are not maintained. However, the total outstanding demand as a whole is as under :—

Financial Year	Corporation tax outstanding	Income-tax outstanding
	(Rupees in crores)	
1994-95	9890.13	12808.52
1995-96 (Provisional)	12445.16	16532.32

(b) The following are generally the reasons for the outstanding demand :—

i) Demands that have not become due for payment at the end of year.

ii) Demands claimed to have been paid out pending verification.

iii) Demands stayed by Courts, Settlement Commission, Tribunal and I.T. Authorities.

iv) Demands for which instalments have been granted.

(c) Various actions prescribed under the Income-tax Act, e.g. attachment of movable and immovable properties of defaulters, prosecution, imposition of penalties, detention in prison, appointment of receiver for management of defaulter's properties are taken for recovery of the outstanding demand. Besides, various steps are taken to effect recovery of demand including grant of instalments and where issues are locked up in appeal, appellate authorities are requested to dispose of the appeals expeditiously.

In the cases of arrears of tax due from Notified persons involved in security scam, as per provisions of the Special Court Act all properties, both movable and immovable, belonging to the Notified Person stand attached simultaneously with the issue of the Notification. Therefore, in respect of all demands that have since become arrears, the department has filed applications with the Special Court for issue of directions to the Custodian to release funds against the tax dues.

[Translation]

National Institute of Fashion Technology

3586. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a branch of the National Institute of Fashion Technology in Gujarat particularly in the tribal areas of the State during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by when it is likely to be set up?